GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:7572
ANSWERED ON:15.05.2000
LIC CALL OFFICES
MANSINH PATEL;RAM TAHAL CHOUDHARY;SANAT KUMAR MANDAL;TARUN GOGOI

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) The number of P.C.Os. functioning in each of the North Eastern States, West Bengal, Mandavi region of Gujarat and Ranchi region of Bihar at present, separately;

(b) The number of applications lying pending for the installation of PCOs in the said regions during the last three years and till date;

(c) The time by which all these applications are likely to be cleared;

(d) Whether these PCOs are not functioning properly and satisfactorily in the said States and the regions;

(e) If so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(f) The steps taken by the Government for smooth functioning of PCOs in the said States and the regions; (g) The number of PCOs closed in West Bengal during the last three years; (h) The reasons therefor; (i) Whether the Government propose to increase the number of PCOs for the Sundarban areas in W.B.; and (j) If so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS

(SH.TAPAN SIKDAR)

(a) The information is given in the Annexure.

(b) 15,127 applications are lying pending for allotment of PCOs in those regions.

(c) All the pending applications are to be cleared progressively by March, 2001, subject to technical feasibility & the applicants fulfilling other conditions.

(d)&(e) Sir, most of the PCOs are functioning properly. As and when some fault is reported the same is attended promptly.

(f) Steps taken for proper functioning of PCOs include upgradation of external plant and provisioning of reliable media.

(g) Nil.

(h) Does not arise.

(i) & (j) Sir, at present 25 PCOs are working in Sundarban areas. 91 applications are pending for allotment of PCOs which are to be cleared progressively by June, 2000 subject to technical feasibility & the applicants fulfilling other conditions.

STATEMENT IN RESPECT OF PART (a) LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 7572 FOR 15.5.2000 REGARDING PUBL CALL OFFICES.

NAME OF THE STATE NO.OF PCOs FUNCTIONING

1. Assam 6679

2. Arunachal Pradesh 842

3. Manipur 875

4. Meghalaya 742

5. Mizoram 481
6. Nagaland 1029

7 Tripura 832

8. West Bengal 38530

9. Gujarat(Mandavi region) 395
11.Bihar (Ranchi region) 1371